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birds in life, especially of birds on their nests, and photographic reproductions of original drawings. The scenic illustrations give not only hunting scenes, but views of picturesque localities, more or less related to the haunts of the birds. — J. A. A.

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**Farrington, Oliver Cummings.** A Fossil Egg from South Dakota. (Field Columbian Museum, Geol. Ser. I, No. 5, 1899.)

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**Stone, Witmer.** (1) A New Species of *Coccyzus* from St. Andrews. (Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci., Phila., 1899, p. 301.) (2) On a Collection of Birds from the Vicinity of Bogota, with a Review of the South American Species of *Speotyto* and *Troglodytes*. (*Ibid.*, pp. 302-313.)

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## CORRESPONDENCE.

### The Proper Function of 'Binomials' and 'Trinomials.'

EDITORS OF 'THE AUK':—

*Dear Sirs:*—Without wishing to throw discredit upon the much abused second edition of the A. O. U. Check-List of North American Birds, I nevertheless feel called upon to draw attention to some inconsistencies contained therein, which indicate the present tendency to depart from some of the Canons of Nomenclature originally adopted by the Union.

I refer to the nomenclature of island forms. The A. O. U. Code distinctly makes "*intergradation* the touchstone of trinomialism," and